This is the first time for me to contribute to the English version of the JACET News since I was elected president of the association. Let me take this occasion to inform you of my resolution for the second term of my presidency. This has already appeared in the previous issue of the Newsletter (Japanese version).

I review here my three manifestos presented two years ago when I was inaugurated as president. The reasons for doing so are simple: Namely, the contents of my manifestos were not fully realized during my first term. The manifestos are expressed in the following keywords: 'activation,' 'reorganization,' and 'presentation.' Let me briefly explain these terms.

To ACTIVATE the association: I told you two years ago that ‘activation’ meant a change in the generational structure and an increase of young members. The former was realized: we implemented the rule of age and term limits and have had some new, younger executive board members.

The increase in our organization’s younger members, however, was not realized to our satisfaction. Young graduate students, in particular, have not joined in large numbers. As a whole, we hold our annual conferences and issue our bulletins successfully, and various committees are functioning well, but we have not yet reached a level of activity which can make us feel elevated in spirit.

To REORGANIZE the association: As for the reorganization of our association, I pledged two years ago to revise our regulations, rethink the finances, and make our association an incorporated body. As you are well aware, all of these things are now proceeding. Especially we are now in the final stages to change JACET from a voluntary body to an incorporated body. In the coming annual conference, we will have meetings
of the board of directors and trustees, as well as the annual general meeting, to make the final decision for incorporation of JACET as a juridical body. It is natural, thus, for me to continue this policy in my second term of the presidency.

To PRESENT the results of our activities:
The last manifesto which I made two years ago was to notify various institutions, including the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and affiliated associations and organizations, of our multifold activities. We have already presented the final results of JACET’s SIG, the “English Classology” (or English Classroom Instruction) Committee. In the upcoming annual conference, the two other SIGs, the General Survey Committee and the Testing Research and Development Committee, will present their results. However, these presentations are mainly directed at domestic institutions and associations. In order to make our voices reach abroad, we should make most of our presentations and publications in English, including proceedings of our annual conference.

To summarize my manifestos in terms of concrete policy, I would like to see a realization of an incorporated JACET and preparation for projects for the association’s 50th Anniversary. These two activities will help advance the above manifestos.

Fortunately, incorporating JACET will be realized in April, 2008. As for the 50th anniversary memorial projects (the JACET 50th Memorial International Convention and the JACET 50th Anniversary Publication Project), we will set up committees at the board of directors and trustees and the annual general meeting in September. It is my sincere hope that many members will gather at the annual conference and share in the pleasure of the development and advancement of our association.

I would like to extend special thanks to those who were involved in preparing and conducting the 46th Annual Convention of JACET held at Yasuda Women’s University in Hiroshima in September. Certainly the success of this conference will help lead us to the next step regarding the future of English language teaching and learning not only in Japan but also in the world.

The JACET Headquarters consists of two types of committees—ten main committees and ad hoc committees. The main committees include the General Affairs, Finance, Annual Convention, JACET Bulletin, JACET Newsletter, Seminar, Networking, International, JACET-SIGs Support, and JACET Prize Committees. The ad hoc committees are Organizational Structure, Houjinka Preparations, General Survey on English Language Teaching in Japan, Examination Research and Development, English Classology Research (jugyogaku in Japanese), and ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Committees.

As has been formally stated in the previous JACET News, during the spring of 2008, JACET will be transformed into the “JACET Incorporated Association” (shadan-houjin in Japanese). The JACET Headquarters is now preparing for the change from the present voluntary JACET corporation to this future public association. The final step will be made in the spring of 2008. The Houjinka Preparations Committee has already submitted almost all the necessary documents.
for this change to the Ministry of Education. We are now waiting for the final acceptance by the government.

In April of 2007, the JACET Presidential Election was held according to the JACET by-laws. In the meeting of the JACET Board of Directors on March 30-31 at Waseda University, three candidates were selected. After your votes, as stated in the by-laws, Mr. Mamoru Morizumi was selected as the President of JACET. President Morizumi has appointed Mr. Hisatake Jimbo and Nobuo Okada as Vice-Presidents.

Reports from Chapters

<Kyushu-Okinawa Chapter>

June 16
The 1st Chapter Journal (Annual Review of English Learning and Teaching) Editorial Board Meeting (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)
The 2nd Steering Committee Meeting (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)

June 23
SIG East Asia English Education 69th Seminar (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)
Speaker: Terry Laskowski (Kumamoto Univ.)
Topic: A Teacher Education Model Based on Chaos/Complexity Theory: Can It Work in East Asia?

July 6
The 3rd Steering Committee Meeting (Venue: Highness Hotel Kurume)

July 7
The 21st Chapter Conference and General Meeting (Venue: Kurume Institute of Technology)
Conference Theme: In Search of Good Practice: Learning Strategies in EFL/ESL
See http://www.n-junshin.ac.jp/jacet/ for the conference program.

July 21
The 2nd Chapter Journal Editorial Board Meeting (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)
SIG East Asia English Education 70th Seminar (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)
Speaker: Atsushi Otsu (Fukuoka Univ.)
Topic: Interface between First-Year Education and Language Education

September 1
The 3rd Chapter Journal Editorial Board Meeting (Venue: Miyazaki Prefectural Nursing Univ.)
The 4th Steering Committee Meeting (Venue: Miyazaki Prefectural Nursing Univ.)

September 22
SIG East Asia English Education 71st Seminar (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)
Speaker: Akiko Tsuda (Nakamura Gakuen Junior College)
Topic: To be announced

October 20
The 5th Steering Committee Meeting (Venue: To be announced)
SIG East Asia English Education 72nd Seminar (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)
Speaker: To be announced
Topic: To be announced

November 17
SIG East Asia English Education 73rd Seminar (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)
Speaker: Reiko Mori (Fukuoka Prefectural Univ.)
Topic: To be announced

November 30
Annual Review of English Learning and Teaching No. 12 to be published.

December 15
SIG East Asia English Education 74th Seminar (Venue: Seinan Gakuin Univ.)
Speaker: Shinichiro Ishikawa (Kobe Univ.)
Topic: To be announced
December 22
The 6th Steering Committee Meeting (Venue: To be announced)
Autumn Special Lecture (Venue: Seinan Gakuin University)
Speaker: Professor Oryang Kwon (Seoul National Univ.)
Topic: To be announced

Official Chapter Homepage:
http://www.n-junshin.ac.jp/jacet/
(Toshihiro Shimizu, Kyushu Univ.)

<Chugoku-Shikoku Chapter>
Block Meetings
Three Block Meetings are scheduled to be held in three areas from November to December, 2007. Details about the location and exact time of the meetings will be made known to all the members of the Chugoku-Shikoku Chapter later on.
(Hidetomo Torigoe, Takuma NCT)

<Kansai Chapter>
Activities of the Kansai Chapter during the last half of 2007 and scheduled activities for early 2008 include the following:

2007 FALL Conference
Date: October 13, 2007
Place: The University of Shiga Prefecture

Session 1: [Workshop]
What Can We Learn from Primary School English Education in Asia?
Presenters: Toshiaki Kawahara (Kyoto Koka Women’s Univ.), Matsumaru Kawabata (Kanazawa Gakuin Univ.), Yuko Gotoda (Hokuriku Gakuin Junior College), Nobuyuki Tsuji (Elementary School Affiliated with the Department of Education of Wakayama Univ.), Kiyoshi Naka (Kyushu Women’s Univ.)

Sessions 2 & 3 [Individual Presentations]
Session 2
Writing Assignments for “Discovery Learning” in Undergraduate English Courses with Graduate Students as TAs, Atsuko Umesaki (Ritsumeikan Univ.), Gordon Ratzlaff (Ritsumeikan Univ.), and Hideo Hirao (Ritsumeikan Univ.): Development of Authoring System for Creating Vocabulary Courseware, Junko Takefuta (Osaka Univ.); Needs for English in the Japanese Workplace: A Survey of Economics Graduates, Yuko Shimizu (Ritsumeikan Univ.)

Session 3
The Effect of Different Latencies on the Utterance for Japanese EFL Learners: A Psycholinguistic Study Based on Repeating and Open Question Tasks, Miwa Morishita (Graduate Student, Kobe Univ.); The Influence of Task Mode Differences on the Use of English Articles: An Analysis of Japanese EFL Learner Output, Mari Fukuda (Graduate Student, Kobe Univ.) and Junko Tanaka (Graduate School of Intercultural Studies, Kobe Univ.); The Omission of Reflexive Pronouns and Semantic Study, Takashi Inoue (Graduate Student, Kwansei Gakuin Univ.)

Keynote Lecture
Lecturer: Nobuo Okada (Osaka Univ.)
Title: Grammar Liberates Communication
Moderator: Keiko Hayashi (Hiroshima Jogakuin Univ.)

Seminars & Lectures
1. First Chapter Lecture of the 2007 Academic Year
Date: July 29, 2007
Place: Takatsuki City Lifelong Learning Center
Presenter: Tetsuya Kagata (Osaka Univ. of Commerce)
Title: English Teaching in Neyagawa City Aiming for a Proper Bridge between Primary and Junior High Schools
2. Second Chapter Lecture of the 2007 Academic Year
Date: December 16, 2007
Place: Co-op Inn Kyoto
Presenter: Goro Tajiri (Kansai Univ.)
Title to be announced.

3. Third Chapter Lecture of the 2007 Academic Year is scheduled on March 2, 2008.

4. 11th Annual Graduation-Master’s Thesis Seminar, chapter co-sponsored with the Kansai English Language Education Society (KELES), will be held at the University of Marketing and Distribution Sciences on February 16, 2008. Detailed information to be announced soon.

5. The 2008 Spring Conference will be held at Setsunan University on June 7, 2008.

Publications
1. JACET-Kansai Chapter Newsletter, Number. 36 and 37 were published in calendar year 2007. Current and back issues of the newsletter can be accessed at http://www.jacet-kansai.org/kako.html#kako.

2. JACET-Kansai Journal, Vol. 9 was published in April, 2007 with the following contents.

Papers
(1) Title: Beginning Extensive Reading: A Qualitative Evaluation of EFL Learner Perceptions
Author: Matthew T. Apple (Doshisha Univ.)

(2) Title: Interpretation of the English Past Tense Marker by L1 Japanese Learners
Author: Tokiko Ohkuma (Osaka Univ.)

(3) Title: Exploring the Assessment of English Pronunciation Using GENOVA and FACETS
Author: Hiroko Yoshida (Osaka Univ. of Economics)

Information on Chapter SIGs
The Kansai Chapter has 10 special interest groups that conduct research in a wide range of fields. For more information, please refer to the following web: http://www.jacet-kansai.org/kenkyukai.html.

Announcements
For further information on the Conference and all other Chapter activities, please refer to the Kansai Chapter Web site at http://www.jacet-kansai.org/

(Eiichi Yamamoto, Kansai Univ.)

<Chubu Chapter>
The report in this issue covers the period May to June 2007. We had one executive committee meeting, one steering committee meeting and the Annual Chubu Chapter Convention.

Annual Chapter Convention
The Annual Chapter Convention was held at Ishikawa Prefectural University on June 9. The convention theme was “Evaluation in the New Era (Atarashii jidai no hyoka wa do arubekika).” The keynote speech, entitled “Testing, language evaluation and happiness”, was given by Prof. Yoshinori Watanabe of Sophia University. The symposium, “What evaluation should be in the new era”, was led by Prof. Rensuke Ito of Ishikawa Pref. University and contained three panelists: Prof. Yusuke Horii of Kanazawa University, Prof. Mikio Kano of Kanazawa University and Mr. Hiroshi Ono of the Media Education Development Centre.

There were also fifteen research papers given as oral presentations. At the general meeting, which is usually held on the same occasion as the Chapter Convention, the financial report for the 2006 fiscal year and the budget for 2007 were submitted and approved.

Executive Committee Meeting
One Executive Committee meeting took place with details as follows.
Date: May 26  
Place: Chubu University, Nagoya Campus  

**Steering Committee Meeting**  
Date: May 26  
Place: Chubu University, Nagoya Campus  
Agenda: Chapter convention program, logistics for the convention

**Publications**  
*JACET Chubu Newsletter*, No. 18, was issued on May 7.  
(Yasumi Murata, Meijo Univ.)

**<Kanto Chapter>**  
**Annual Chapter Convention**  
On June 24, the second annual convention was held at Rikkyo University. With the financial support of Rikkyo University it ended with great success. In the general meeting, the financial report for the 2006 fiscal year, the 2007 budget, and the 2007 schedule were approved.

(a) **Convention Theme:**  
College English Curricula in Japan: Present and Future

(b) **Plenary Symposium:**  
“Present and Future College English Curricula: Perspectives from Different Institutions”  
Masachika Ishida (Coordinator, Seisen Univ.), Mamoru Morizumi (Obirin Univ.), Shinichiro Torikai (Rikkyo Univ.), Naoko Ozeki (Meiji Univ.), Shigeru Sasajima (Saitama Medical Univ.), Noriko Nagai (Ibaraki Univ.)

(c) **Symposium: 4 symposia**  
“Are We Really on a Right Track with Elementary English Education?” (Coordinator, Norio Hozaki, Waseda Univ.), Developing Teacher Competency for Elementary School English—Problems and Solutions (Coordinator, Mika Ito, Tokai Univ.), “New Viewpoints in the Study of English Speaking Ability” (Coordinator, Shoichi Ishikawa, Jissen Women’s Univ.), “Evaluation and Measurement of Second Language Speech in the University Context: Towards an Automatic Evaluation System” (Coordinator, Michiko Nakano, Waseda Univ.)

(d) **Workshop: 3 workshops**  
“Reconsideration of Oral Communication Education—Focusing on Interactive Theatre—” (Coordinator, Yasuho Shiozawa, Bunkyo Univ.), “How to Make and Use EFL Teaching Materials of Digital Age” (Coordinator, Hiroyuki Obari, Aoyama Gakuin Univ.), “Implementing Student Small Group Discussions in an English Language Program” (Coordinator, Todd Rucynski, Rikkyo Univ.)

(e) **Panel Discussion: 1 panel discussion**  
Guided Discussion Session

(f) **Publishers’ Presentation: 1 presentation**  
“What’s CaLabo EX ver.4 and How Should It Be Applied to English Classes?” Tatsuma Yamashiro (CHIeru Co., Ltd.)

(g) **Research Paper Presentation: 9 presentations**

(h) **Case Study: 10 case studies**

**Monthly Meetings (Special lectures)**  
July 21, from 4:00 to 6:00 at Waseda University  
Prof. Geoffrey Leech  
October 9, from 6:30 to 8:00 at Sophia
University
“Dynamic Assessment: A Dialectical Approach to Instruction and Assessment”
Prof. James P. Lantolf (Pennsylvania State Univ.)

(Masashi Nakao, Toho Gakuen College of Drama and Music)

<Tohoku Chapter>
2007 Annual General Meeting
The Annual Meeting of the Tohoku Chapter was held on June 9 at Tohoku Institute of Technology (Sendai Ichibancho satellite campus). The General Business Meeting was preceded by an Executive Committee meeting, and followed by paper presentations and a lecture.

We had the privilege of having Professor Nobuo Okada, Vice President of JACET, at the meeting to address some matters involving JACET and to provide a special lecture for the members present. We also received assistance from the Hokkaido Chapter, with two of their members coming to present their research results.

Papers Presented
(1) Katsumi Hino (Miyagi Univ.)
“A University English Education Reform: How to Make the Best Use of Students’ Needs and Maximize Their Satisfaction”
(2) Kenmei Shimizu (Fukushima Medical Univ.)
“On Rhetorical Pluralism”
(3) Hisashi Naito (Asahikawa Medical College) and Toshiyuki Sakabe (Dohto Univ.)

Special Lecture
Nobuo Okada (Osaka Univ., JACET Vice President)

“On Grammar Teaching in University English Education”

Schedule of Events for 2007–08
(1) October 13, 2007: Executive Committee Meeting, Paper Presentations, and Lecture/Symposium, 12 – 6 p.m. at Tohoku Institute of Technology (Sendai Ichibancho satellite campus)
(2) December 8, 2007: Executive Committee Meeting, Paper Presentations, and Lecture/Symposium, 12 – 6 p.m. at Tohoku Institute of Technology (Sendai Ichibancho satellite campus)
(3) Early March, 2008: Executive Committee Meeting (Date and Place to be determined)

Publication Schedule
(1) JACET-Tohoku Newsletter, No. 32, to be published in September, 2007.
(2) JACET-Tohoku Newsletter, No. 33, to be published in March, 2008.
(3) TOHOKU TEFL (A collection of papers compiled by the Tohoku Chapter), Vol. 2, scheduled for publication in late March, 2008.

(Hokkaido Chapter Report)
Annual Chapter Convention
On July, the 2007 Hokkaido Chapter convention was held at Fuji Women’s College. Research presentations included “The quantitative research methods to investigate L1 and L2 uses by English teachers in Japan” by Akinobu Shimura (Asahikawa Jitsugyo Senior High School); “Lesson plans submitted by student teachers in a pre-service teacher training program” by Nozomi Ishikawa (Tomakomai National College of Technology); “An English extensive reading class endeavor: A learner-centered approach” by Masashi Takemura (Hakodate National College of Technology).
The general meeting was held after the presentations. The agenda included the 2006 financial and activity report, the 2007 budget and schedule, chapter officials, the chapter chairperson election, and chapter awards. A lecture entitled, “Developing practical communication skills using ICT: A bold undertaking at Waseda Univ.” by Michiko Nakano (JACET director, Waseda Univ.) followed the general meeting.

Lecture Meetings and Publications

On April 21, the first lecture meeting for 2007 was held at Fuji Women’s College. Suzanne Yonezawa (Hokkai Gakuen Univ.), Akinobu Shimura (Hokkaido Univ. of Education at Asahikawa Graduate Student), and Mitsutada Metoki (Hokkai Gakuen Univ. and Hokkaido Institute of Technology Part-time instructor) presented their research entitled, “What’s the FIFU?: Introduction and teachers’ feedback.” Toshihiro Yamanishi (Sapporo International Univ.) was another lecturer. He discussed “Developing self expression in English through familiar topics and encouraging learning English through current topics.”

The Research Bulletin of English Teaching No.4 was issued on January 30, 2007. The 20th issue of the Chapter Newsletter was published on March 31, 2007.

(Yasushi Kawai, Hokkaido Univ.)

SIG Introduction
(Chugoku-Shikoku Chapter)

English Education at Universities in Asian Countries
Seiichi Ikadatsu (Tottori University)

The Chugoku-Shikoku Chapter has one SIG, “English Education at Universities in Asian Countries”, which was established in March 1994. There were 12 founding members at that time, and two years later it expanded to around twenty, but because of the retirement of some active members and others moving to different chapters, the number of SIG members has shrunk to only a few at present.

The purpose of this SIG is to investigate the English teaching situations in Asian countries:
(1) the history of the introduction of English to each country
(2) the present situation of English teaching at primary, junior high, and senior high school levels
(3) the present situation of English teaching at the university level
(4) the characteristics of each country’s English pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary
(5) the characteristics of English in each country depending on age, gender, and occupation
(6) social situations relating to English use: broadcasting, newspapers, and magazines

Our SIG first published Engishes in Asia and English Teaching vol.1 in 1996. In the 8 years that followed, there were 6 publications: vol.2 (’97), vol.3 (’98), vol.4 (’00), vol.5 (’01), vol.6 (’03), and vol.7 (’04).

Now we are trying to recruit new members to revitalize the activities of our SIG.
The motto of my seminar is “Everything is possible. The impossible just takes longer.” Under this motto, a total of 18 M.A. students and eight Ph.D. candidates are conducting research on various topics in EFL teaching/learning (e.g., strategies, motivation, anxiety, shadowing, use of technology). The seminar started in 2002, and has produced 13 masters and three doctors by now. The background of the students varies a lot: Some are fresh from college; others have extensive teaching experience. Some are graduates of Kansai University; others (approximately 70%) are graduates of various universities all over Japan. Still others (about 10%) are graduates of overseas universities. So, in a sense, diversity is a key feature of my seminar. But, diverse as they are, they share one common interest: language teaching/learning.

We have a lot of research activities every year. Based on these activities, academic papers, teaching materials, and research presentations are being produced (some papers have appeared in such professional journals as SYSTEM and CALICO Journal as well as JACET Bulletin). Fun activities (party! party! party!) are on our schedule, too. Through these academic/fun activities, the graduates and the students have begun to know each other, help each other, and create a wonderful place for collaboration (i.e., a realization of legitimate peripheral participation). You can see a part of our activities in our website at http://ree-takeuchi.com/. The titles of the master’s theses and Ph.D. dissertations accepted so far are also available at http://www2.ipcku.kansai-u.ac.jp/~takeuchi/supervised.html.

This relates to the JACET convention in 2008. Please be encouraged to submit a paper and participate in the convention!!

**JACET 47th (2008) Annual Convention**

September 11th (Thu.) to 13th (Sat.) 2008

Theme: What is Global English Communicative Competence?: A Reconsideration of English Education in Japan

Venue: Waseda University (1-6-1 Nishiwaseda Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 169-8050)

For further inquiries, please contact the JACET office.
Editor’s Note

We are most grateful to the English Education at Universities in Asian Countries SIG for their willingness to introduce their SIG on the JACET News. We also extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Osamu Takeuchi for his cooperation to introduce his seminar in the section of “My Seminar” which has just begun with this issue.

JACET News
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